

### Amendments to the Claims

Kindly amend claims 1 and 31, and add new claims 34 and 35, as set forth below. The changes in the amended claims are shown by strikethrough for deleted matter and underlining for added matter.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of facilitating configuring of resources of a communications environment, said method comprising:

automatically mapping, by a configuration unit, a first identifier of a resource of a machine being configured to a second identifier of the resource to assign a physical path of the resource to a logical path of the resource, ~~wherein the automatically mapping is performed prior to installation of the machine, and wherein~~ the first identifier is usable by hardware to identify the resource and the second identifier is usable by a program of the machine to identify the resource, and wherein the mapping is based on the physical structure of the machine being configured and on avoiding single points of failure or single points of repair.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the resource comprises a communications adapter.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the communications adapter comprises a channel, the first identifier comprises a physical channel identifier (PCHID) and the second identifier comprises a logical channel path identifier (CHPID).

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the communications adapter is of an input/output subsystem of the machine, the input/output subsystem being configured as a plurality of input/output images.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the automatically mapping comprises automatically selecting the first identifier to be mapped to the second identifier from a plurality of first identifiers, wherein the selecting takes into consideration a definition associated with the second identifier.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the selecting takes into consideration the availability of a plurality of resources associated with the plurality of first identifiers in selecting the first identifier to be mapped to the second identifier.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising choosing the second identifier for which mapping is to occur from a plurality of second identifiers, said choosing being based on a priority associated with another resource coupled to the resource.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising providing as input to the automatically mapping a physical description of one or more resources of the machine, said physical description comprising the first identifier.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the physical description is in a report generated in response to ordering the machine, said report being a direct input to the automatically mapping.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising providing as another input to the automatically mapping a logical definition of the resource, said logical definition comprising the second identifier.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein an output of the automatically mapping is an input/output control program statement that includes the first identifier.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising providing the input/output control program statement to a hardware configuration definition to be used to produce an input/output configuration data set usable by the machine for configuration.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the second identifier is provided to the automatically mapping via the hardware configuration definition.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the automatically mapping comprises performing one or more selective validations on data input to the automatically mapping.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the automatically mapping is performed to change a configured machine.

16-30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the machine is-being configured is a new machine being built~~prior to installation~~.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the another resource is a control unit, the resource is a channel, the first identifier is a physical channel identifier (PCHID) and the second identifier is a logical channel identifier (CHPID), and wherein the priority is assigned to the control unit by a user, and wherein the automatically mapping comprises first selecting the control unit with the highest priority and for that control unit, mapping a PCHID to a CHPID of a channel associated with the control unit.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the resource comprises a channel, and wherein the mapping is further based on the type of channel.

34. (New) A computer system for facilitating configuring of resources of a communications environment, the computer system comprising:

a memory; and

a processor in communications with the memory, wherein the computer system is capable of performing a method, said method comprising:

automatically mapping a first identifier of a resource of a machine being configured to a second identifier of the resource to assign a physical path of the resource to a logical path of the resource, wherein the first identifier is usable by hardware to identify the resource and the second identifier is usable by a program of the machine to identify the resource, and wherein the mapping is based on the physical structure of the machine being configured and on avoiding single points of failure or single points of repair.

35. (New) The computer system of claim 34, wherein the method further comprises choosing the second identifier for which mapping is to occur from a plurality of second identifiers, said choosing being based on a priority associated with another resource coupled to the resource, wherein the another resource is a control unit, the resource is a channel, the first identifier is a physical channel identifier (PCHID) and the second identifier is a logical channel identifier (CHPID), and wherein the priority is assigned to the control unit by a user, and wherein the automatically mapping comprises first selecting the control unit with the highest priority and for that control unit, mapping a PCHID to a CHPID of a channel associated with the control unit.